

ANNEX VI

REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 2.13

TRADE FACILITATION

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Article 1

Customs and Trade Facilitation

Except as otherwise provided for in this Annex, with respect to trade facilitation, the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation shall apply and is hereby incorporated and made part of the Agreement, *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 2

Release and Clearance of Perishable Goods

In cases of significant delay in the release of perishable goods, and upon written request, including by electronic means, the importing Party shall provide a communication on the reasons for the delay.

Article 3

Competent Customs Offices

Each Party may designate the customs offices at which goods may be presented or cleared. In determining the competence and location of these offices and their hours of business, the factors to be taken into account shall include in particular the requirements of trade.

Article 4

Authorised Economic Operator System

A Party operating an Authorised Economic Operator System or security measures affecting international trade flows shall:

- (a) afford another Party the possibility to negotiate a mutual recognition agreement on authorisation and security measures for the purpose of facilitating international trade while ensuring effective customs control; and

- (b) draw on relevant international standards, in particular the World Customs Organization Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade (SAFE Framework).

Article 5

Legalisation of Documents

A Party shall not require legalisation or other authentication, in particular consular transaction of commercial invoices, certificates of origin or other customs documentation, including related fees and charges, in connection with the importation of any goods of another Party.

Article 6

Further Cooperation

1. The Parties recognise the importance of cooperation as regards to customs and trade facilitation measures in order to achieve the relevant objectives of the Agreement.
2. The Parties are encouraged to share with each other their experiences on the best practices of trade facilitation mechanisms implemented by them, including training schemes and working visits, with a view to streamline clearance procedures and to meet new security requirements.
3. The Parties may identify, and submit to the Joint Committee for consideration, additional measures with a view to facilitating trade between them.
4. The Parties shall promote international cooperation in relevant multilateral fora on trade facilitation. The Parties shall review relevant international initiatives in order to identify, and may submit to the Joint Committee for consideration, further areas where joint action could contribute to their common objectives.
